

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 23 March 2004 (23.03.04);
original claims 1-17 replaced by new claims 1-7 (2 pages)]

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What is claimed is:

1. An electrical terminal (30) stamped and formed of conductive sheet metal material for mating with a blade-like mating terminal (32), comprising:
 - a generally flat base (34) having a front mating end (30a) and a rear terminating end (30b);
 - a spring arm (42) having a front bowed end (42a) joined to the front mating end of base and folded rearwardly over the base to a rear bowed end (42b) of the spring arm, and including an opening (46) in the front bowed end through which the blade-like mating terminal (32) is inserted, the spring arm being bifurcated by means of a front-to-rear slot (48) communicating with said opening (46);
 - a contact arm (44) folded back forwardly from said rear bowed end (42b) beneath the spring arm (42) above the base (34) and spaced therefrom for receiving the blade-like mating terminal (32) inserted between the contact arm and the base; and
 - a sharp edge (50) on said contact arm (44) facing the rear terminating end of the base and engageable with the blade-like mating terminal (32) to resist unmating of the terminals (30,32).
2. The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said base (34) is generally rectangular.
3. The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said base (34) has a raised embossment (40) on the top thereof for engaging the blade-like mating terminal (32).
4. The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said base (34) has a terminating tail (38) projecting from the rear terminating end (30b) thereof.
5. The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said base (34) has engaging teeth (36) on opposite edges thereof for engagement in an appropriate mounting passage in a connector housing.

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6. The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said slot (48a) extends through the rear bowed end (42b) of the spring arm (42).

7. The electrical terminal of claim 7 wherein said slot (48a) extends into said contact arm (44) and stops at said sharp edge (50).

AMENDED SHEET (ARTICLE 19)